

## ABSTRACT

The invention provides a communication system architecture in which a hybrid fiber coax (HFC) network utilizing an Internet protocol (IP) through an IP network is connectable to a local digital switch (LDS) within a public switched telephone network (PSTN). An IP digital terminal (IPDT) is provided as the link between the LDS and the IP network. The IPDT serves to translate both signaling and voice data between the two networks.

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